



countdown

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Astronaut Michael Fincke takes command of ISS



◆ **ISS Update:** A new crew that will live and work aboard the International Space Station is at the orbiting lab after rocketing into orbit Oct. 12 aboard a Soyuz spacecraft. The Soyuz carrying Expedition 18 Commander Michael Fincke and Flight Engineer Yuri Lonchakov, as well as Richard Garriott, a U.S. computer game developer, docked with the station's Zarya module at 4:26 a.m. EDT Tuesday as the two spacecraft were about 215 miles above Kazakhstan.

Fincke, the only American to launch twice on a Soyuz, will serve as commander of the six-month Expedition 18 mission. The mission's main focus will be preparing the station to house six crew members on long-duration missions.

After the hatches opened, Expedition 17 Commander Sergei Volkov and spaceflight participant Garriott became the first children of previous space fliers to greet each other in orbit. Garriott is the son of former NASA astronaut Owen Garriott, who was a member of the Skylab-3 crew in 1973. Volkov is the son of veteran cosmonaut Alexander Volkov, who flew three Soyuz missions.

Garriott will spend nine days on the station under a commercial agreement with the Russian Federal Space Agency.

He will return to Earth on Oct. 23 with Volkov and Expedition 17 Flight Engineer Oleg Kononenko, who have worked aboard the station since April 10.

■ **The KSC 2008 CFC Campaign Has Begun** — The campaign will run through Nov. 7. The slogan for this year's campaign is "One Small Gift - One Giant Impact."

The following were chosen as the weekly Raffle Prizes: Week 1 - \$100 Exchange Store gift certificate; Week 2 - \$25 Exchange Store gift certificate plus Visitor Complex tickets; Week 3 - \$50 Exchange Store gift certificate; Week 4 - \$25 Exchange Store gift certificate plus Visitor Complex tickets. For more information, please go to the KSC CFC Web site at: <http://cfc.ksc.nasa.gov>.

■ **Business Opportunities Expo** — More than 150 national and local businesses and government groups are gearing up to showcase their best products and services at the annual Business Opportunities Expo 2008 at Port Canaveral Oct. 21. The trade show will run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Cruise Terminal 3.

In its 18th year, the Expo is sponsored by the NASA/KSC Prime Contractor Board, the U.S. Air Force 45th Space Wing and Canaveral Port Authority.

Numerous Brevard County businesses will be on hand, including several minority, women, HUBZone and veteran-owned companies.

Admission to the Expo is free. For more information, call 867-7353 or go to: <http://expo.ksc.nasa.gov> on the Web.

■ **National Disability Employment Awareness Month** — KSC will observe

Business Expo to showcase spaceport opportunities

National Disability Employment Awareness Month through Oct. 31. This year's theme is "America's People, America's Talent... America's Strength!"

The Disability Awareness and Action Working Group will host its sixth annual event 10 a.m. Oct. 24 in the KSC Training Auditorium. This year's guest speaker is Kate Adamson, who suffered "Locked-in Syndrome" brought on by a double brain-stem stroke. In addition, the Disability Information Fair will be held after the program in the classrooms adjacent to the auditorium.



■ **KSC Walking Groups** — With temperatures starting to cool a bit, it is time to dust off those walking shoes and join a

KSC Fall Walking Group. The O&C Trail Walking Group will walk 11-11:30 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays through Dec. 18. Walkers should meet at the east bridge in the southeast corner of the O&C parking lot/trail by 11 a.m. to start walking. Keep a pair of walking shoes at work! The walk will be canceled for the day if it is raining.

If you would like to start a walking group in another area of KSC or CCAFS, please contact Kris Calderon at 867-3414 or kristine.s.calderon@nasa.gov.

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